

Docket No.: 22133-00006-US

Application No. 10/663,835  
Amendment dated  
Reply to Office Action of June 21, 2005

### REMARKS

Receipt of the Office Action mailed June 21, 2005 is acknowledged. The present amendment incorporates features of claims 10 and 1 into claims 13, 15 and 19. Claim 10 has accordingly been canceled. Claim 18 has been replaced with amended claim 17. Each of claims 1-9, 11-17 and 19-21 are believed to be examinable in the current application. Namely each of claims 2-9, 11-17 and 19-21 are now directed to the elected product, while claim 1 is a process of the same scope and should be rejoinable thereto. Consideration of the instantly amended claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 13, 15 and 18-21 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Zelenay et al (6,696,382). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In view of the present amendment, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection is now moot. Namely, Zelenay does not mention the instantly claimed support recited in each claim, but rather, only mentions a ionomeric membrane on which the catalyst ink is sprayed or a teflon sheet. These are a non conductive supports which is in direct contrast to those instantly recited. Thus Zelenay does not anticipate the instant claims.

Nor does Zelenay render the instant claims obvious. That is, it is advantageous to employ a coating of an acetylene black/ polytetrafluorethylene mixture on the instantly recited support. This gives unexpected results in term of *inter alia* better adhesion and finer distribution of the catalyst material on the electrode.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Docket No.: 22133-00006-US

Application No. 10/663,835  
Amendment dated  
Reply to Office Action of June 21, 2005

Applicant hereby authorizes the Commissioner to please charge our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 22133-00006-US for a one month extension of time (\$120) and any other fees deemed necessary, from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: October 20, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By Thor B. Nickerson Reg. No. 45528  
for Susan E. Shaw McBee  
Registration No.: 39,294  
CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP  
1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20036-3425  
(202) 331-7111  
(202) 293-6229 (Fax)  
Attorney for Applicant